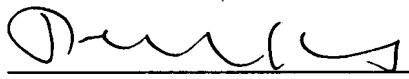


REMARKS

This RCE is being filed for the purpose of obtaining further consideration of applicants' claims 4, 6-8 and 9-11. These claims have been amended in order to emphasize novel aspects of the applicants' invention. In particular, independent claims 4 and 9 have been amended to specify that the ceramide or pseudoceramide is included in the non-oxidative hair dyeing composition. This amendment is responsive to the Examiner's comment at page 3, 3rd ¶ of the final rejection and is thought to warrant allowance of the claims. It is noted in this regard that there is nothing in the Dubief et al. U.S. Patent 6,190,676 which discloses or suggests the applicants' method as defined by the claims as amended herein.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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